



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

Raised Bill No. 7250

LCO No. 5008



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING DESECRATION OF AN ABANDONED CEMETERY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 53a-218 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

3 (a) A person is guilty of interference with a cemetery or burial
4 ground when [he, without authorization of the owner of the burial lot,
5 or a lineal descendant of the deceased, or of the municipality, cemetery
6 association or person or authority responsible for the control or
7 management of the cemetery or burial ground] such person: (1)
8 Intentionally destroys, mutilates, defaces, injures or removes any
9 tomb, monument, gravestone or other structure placed or designed for
10 a memorial of the dead, or any portion or fragment [thereof] of such
11 tomb, monument, gravestone or other structure, or any fence, railing,
12 curb or other enclosure for the burial of the dead, in or from any
13 cemetery or burial ground that is (A) an abandoned cemetery, as
14 defined in section 19a-308a, or (B) a cemetery or burial ground other
15 than an abandoned cemetery and such person takes any such action

16 without authorization of the owner of the burial lot, or a lineal
17 descendant of the deceased, or of the municipality, cemetery
18 association or person or authority responsible for the control or
19 management of the cemetery or burial ground; or (2) wantonly or
20 maliciously disturbs the contents of any tomb or grave in any cemetery
21 or burial ground that is (A) an abandoned cemetery, as defined in
22 section 19a-308a, or (B) a cemetery or burial ground other than an
23 abandoned cemetery and such person takes any such action without
24 authorization of the owner of the burial lot, or a lineal descendant of
25 the deceased, or of the municipality, cemetery association or person or
26 authority responsible for the control or management of the cemetery or
27 burial ground.

28 (b) Interference with a cemetery or burial ground is a class C felony
29 and any person found guilty under this section shall be fined not less
30 than five hundred dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	53a-218

Statement of Purpose:

To apply the cemetery desecration law to abandoned cemeteries.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]